

In “Wings,” the Czech poet Miroslav Holub refers to the main idea of the shorter poem written by American poet William Carlos Williams. Holub then expands on Williams’s idea.

Wings

We have
a microscopic anatomy
of the whale
this
gives
Man
assurance

William Carlos Williams

We have
a map of the universe
for microbes,
we have
5 a map of a microbe
for the universe.

We have
a Grand Master of chess
made of electronic circuits.

10 But above all
we have
the ability
to sort peas,
to cup water in our hands,
15 to seek
the right screw
under the sofa
for hours.

This
20 gives us
wings.

Miroslav Holub *Translated from the Czech by George Theiner*

“Some Simple Measures in the American Idiom and the Variable Foot: Histology” by William Carlos Williams from *Collected Poems 1939–1962, Volume II*, copyright © 1962 by William Carlos Williams. Reprinted by permission of New Directions Publishing Corp.

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1. Which **best** describes the tone of “Wings”?
 - A awed
 - B compassionate
 - C confused
 - D tense

2. Which statement **best** expresses the theme of “Wings” by Holub?
 - A Man is insignificant in the larger world.
 - B Man’s scientific knowledge helps him control the world.
 - C Man is the only animal who uses technology to fly.
 - D Man’s natural abilities are more significant than technology.

3. In comparing lines 2–6, the author switches the order of the words *microbe* and *universe* to emphasize which idea?
 - A the extent of man’s knowledge
 - B the geography of the universe
 - C the geography of microbes
 - D the study of learning

4. The poets’ use of paradoxes such as “microscopic anatomy / of the whale” and “a map of the universe / for microbes” suggests what?
 - A animal and human characteristics
 - B largeness and smallness of human ability
 - C science and English studies
 - D science and geography studies

5. How does the poem by Williams relate to the first two stanzas of “Wings”?
 - A It emphasizes the need for Man to overcome natural limits.
 - B It focuses attention on the smallest aspects of living things.
 - C It supports the idea that Man highly values his technological accomplishments.
 - D It encourages readers to consider the relationship between animal and human life.

6. Holub ends his poem with
“This / gives us / wings.”
Which **best** describes what he is celebrating?
- A humankind
 - B microbes
 - C science
 - D universe

7. Which is the **best** explanation of Holub’s series parallel of verbs starting at line 13?
- A to repeat similar grammatical structures
 - B to repeat words for emphasis
 - C to list man’s scientific knowledge
 - D to define man’s manual abilities

End of Sample Items

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English 1

EOC English I Sample Items

Selection Title	Question Number	Correct Answer	Thinking Skill	Objective Number
Wings	1	A	Analyzing	1.02
Wings	2	D	Analyzing	4.01
Wings	3	A	Analyzing	5.01
Wings	4	B	Analyzing	4.02
Wings	5	C	Integrating	5.01
Wings	6	A	Analyzing	4.02
Wings	7	D	Analyzing	4.02